

Combined Communications Electronics Board (CCEB)

Strategic Plan

June 2002

PURPOSE OF THE CCEB

*To Optimise Information Sharing
by Delivering Capabilities, Policies and Procedures
in order to Maximize the Effectiveness of the Warfighter in Coalition Operations.*

INTRODUCTION

Today the defence forces of the AUSCANNZUKUS nations which form the Combined Communications-Electronics Board (CCEB) face the challenges of technology that enable dramatic change to organizational structures, operational concepts and command and control processes. Synergy between firepower and manoeuvre is achieved through the timely collection and dissemination of information. Commanders must possess information superiority through access to accurate, complete and on-demand information. This will allow them to achieve near real-time situational awareness of the battlespace, provide a decisive edge in warfare actions and protect their forces. Thus, knowing the battlespace is as important as owning it.

The present international security environment, and in particular the declared “War on Terrorism”, increases the likelihood that future operations involving CCEB nations will be coalitions or alliances. These will be complex and dynamic, involving military forces from within and outside those nations that make up the CCEB, and with significant civil, military and political interaction. Organizational and command structures must be flexible, varying according to operational necessity and national commitment. Typically, the composition of any force will be significantly different from any previous deployment, subject to indeterminate political pressures and requiring co-operation between forces that have disparate capabilities and little experience in working with each other.

The CCEB is a military organization that addresses C4 issues to enhance interoperability between its member nations at the strategic, operational and tactical levels of command. As the only joint combined organization focused entirely on C4 matters, it is uniquely positioned to provide C4 leadership within the combined and joint environment. The CCEB is seeking to deliver an environment that optimizes information sharing between coalition Warfighters. Working to priorities agreed with the Multi-national Interoperability Council (MIC), the CCEB seeks to achieve interoperability by developing and agreeing policies, procedures and standards as well as coordinating national programmes to deliver capabilities for the exchange of information in the combined or coalition environment.

THE CCEB STRATEGIC PLAN

To achieve its Purpose, the CCEB will collaborate among nations and with single Service fora, the MIC and other international organizations, focusing work to achieve the goals directed by an agreed Strategic Plan. This Plan directs CCEB effort to create an environment that enhances the interoperable capabilities that deliver or support the use of information that:

- Meets the Warfighters' needs;
- Provides direct access to secure, accurate information for planning and decision making;
- Automates near real-time situational awareness in order to provide military and political leaders with the most accurate information possible on which to base decisions; and
- Is based on dependable, real time, secure communications between national HQs and to all deployed forces.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goals	Associated Objectives
<p>Goal 1: Deliver C4 Interoperability to the Coalition Warfighter</p> <p>Develop and enhance Combined or Coalition C4 interoperability within nations, amongst allies and with other allied organizations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage CCEB activities• Promote CCEB's role in the Defence community• Take an active part in the MIC• Manage interoperability products• Influence future C4 capabilities to enhance interoperability• Lead multi-national C4 coordination• Develop technologies and procedures for the effective management of spectrum in the battlespace• Champion member nations efforts towards network centricity
<p>Goal 2: Deliver interoperable secure voice, data and video capabilities</p> <p>Provide the Warfighter with effective and interoperable communications and information services capabilities, maintain current capabilities and influence future development of capabilities.</p>	<p>Deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secret email with attachments• Secure telephony and RF voice• Secure messaging and directory services• Situational awareness information• Interoperability of secure collaborative planning tools• A secure web-based information environment• Multi-point secure VTC capability• Identify information management issues and solutions
<p>Goal 3: Deliver a Coalition Wide Area Network (CWAN)</p> <p>Provide interconnected secure network infrastructure capable of supporting allied information sharing services/capabilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop, operate and maintain the interconnection of secure national fixed network infrastructures• Develop the interconnection between infrastructure at the strategic, operational and tactical levels.• Develop the policy and procedures required for secure infrastructure at the deployed operational and tactical levels• Address security issues within the combined environment
<p>Goal 4: Champion actions to optimise Military access to spectrum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Influence national positions at WRC by advocating coalition interests

THE WAY FORWARD

Implementing the Strategy.

Implementation commences with:

- Publishing and communicating this Strategy throughout the CCEB community and with all other appropriate nations and fora
- Maintaining a Management Plan which directs and prioritizes CCEB tasks and assigns resources
- Working Groups and Task Forces planning work to achieve each of the Objectives and initiating actions to implement each Objective in a timely and collegial manner
- Developing and maintaining CCEB publications and documents to reflect this Strategy

Implementation Priorities

The work of the CCEB has been prioritized in terms of urgency (the operational imperative), achieveability (can solutions be found at this time?) and cost (can the required resources be made available?), balancing the need to deliver the operators' highest agreed requirements as well as identify the technology and develop policies that enable future interoperability.

The following have been determined as the highest priority activities and CCEB efforts will be concentrated on delivering near-term solutions and products in these areas. Implementation priorities are to be used to direct the implementation of the Strategic Goals and their Objectives, and for the setting of agendas for meetings. The priorities are:

Priority	Activity
1	Establish a CWAN capability, initially enabling the exchange, at the strategic level, of SECRET emails with attachments
	Coordinate national effort at WRC to ensure the availability of military spectrum
	Achieve interoperability of secure military messaging and directory services
	Sustain current capabilities and improve communications procedures
2	Finalize the arrangements for secure video conferencing
	Progressively provide CWAN applications and services as a basis for information exchange
	Improve secure telephone interoperability
3	Develop information assurance policy and products to protect combined and coalition information and interconnected systems.
	Investigate and evaluate ways of improving the availability of information to the warfighter in the combined environment, concentrating on (Initially): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common tool set for collaborative planning• Situational awareness• Web based information sharing

CONCLUSION

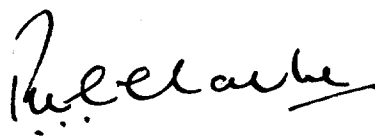
The imperative of providing improved C4 support to commanders places demands on the senior members of the CCEB to carefully plan, co-ordinate and allocate resources (including people, monies and facilities) amongst many worthwhile C4 initiatives. Success can be achieved by:

- Gaining a shared understanding of joint and combined C4 requirements by working with allied and coalition groups
- Focusing CCEB efforts on achieving the priorities articulated by the operations staff in the MIC
- Influencing national C4 capabilities to achieve or enhance interoperability
- Using a collaborative, collegiate, multi-disciplined team approach
- Ensuring the CCEB adds value
- Demonstrating developed capabilities
- Protecting information assets from threat

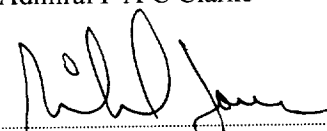
Success will enable the CCEB to move through the 21st Century with the confidence that commanders are receiving appropriate C4 support for their mission.

CCEB Home Page: <http://www.dtic.mil/j6/cceb>

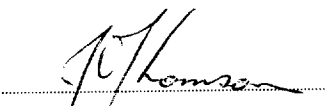
For the Australian Defence Force


Rear Admiral P A C Clarke

For the Canadian Department of National Defence


Brigadier General J C S M Jones

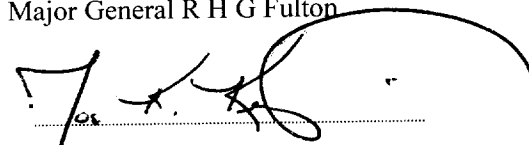
For the New Zealand Defence Force


Colonel J O Thomson

For the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence


Major General R H G Fulton

For the United States Department of Defense


Lieutenant General J K Kellogg